

California Postsecondary Education Commission

Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program

Project Description

Project Title	Central Valley Science Project Teacher Retention Initiative		
Grant Amount: \$335,000	Grant Period: February 1, 2007 to January 30, 2011		
Grade Level:	Subject Matter: Science		
Institute of Higher Education	<input type="checkbox"/> California State Univeristy, Fresno		
Local Education Agency	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Additional Partners:	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Need for Project/ Population To Be Served:	<p>In its 2003 report, No Dream Denied, the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future report that teacher retention had become a national crisis standing in the way of the nation's obligation to provide every child with a competent, caring, and qualified teacher in schools organized for success. No matter how many new teachers are recruited into the profession, schools lose about the same number of teachers they hire every year, thus prolonging an apparent "shortage" condition. The report predicts that "unless we address the issue of teacher retention, the nation will not be able to meet No Child Left Behind's mandate to provide "highly qualified" teachers for every classroom." This problem is particularly acute in the Central Valley of California where the population of EL and impoverished children continues to grow while the number of fully credentialed science teachers is declining.</p>		
Project Goals:	<p>Goal 1: To develop a productive professional learning community of science teachers in the Central Valley</p> <p>Goal 2: To provide an annual intensive science content institute for participating teachers</p> <p>Goal 3: To provide a structured mentoring program for participating teachers based on the current CSP partnership with eMSS</p> <p>Goal 4: To provide ongoing professional development for participating teachers focused on effective classroom practice, EL and literacy strategies, and content-based resources.</p> <p>Goal 5: To implement an individual professional development plan for each participating teacher</p> <p>Goal 6: To provide school administration with the knowledge and skills necessary to create a collegial and supportive school culture for teachers.</p>		
Summary of Activities:	<p>Project Activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2- week summer content institute for middle and high school teachers with university credit Weekend university courses Department meetings that support and enhance the work done during the institute and follow-up sessions eMSS mentoring opportunities for teachers to deepen and support their work CSET Test prep courses for teachers to meet NCLB mandates and start on a pathway to becoming highly qualified in science. 		
Outcomes Expected:	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher participation in both professional development activities and professional learning communities will provide professional support, encouragement and community that enables effective teaching and generates long term commitments to the students and schools where they practice.		
Teachers Served	120	Students Served	13500
Project Website:			
James E. Marshall IHE Contact	Email: jamesm@csufresno.edu	LEA Contact	Email:
	Phone: 559.278.0204		Phone: